

Message

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Sent: 2/7/2019 2:54:07 PM
To: Dunlap, David [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=591eb15a268249dda0c05a7451f765c3-Dunlap, Dav]
Subject: FW: Microplastics Expert Workshop Report -- Perspectives on Research Priorities
Attachments: Trash Free Waters - MEW Report FINAL 12-4-17.pdf; Trash Free Waters MEW Report At-a-Glance 1-16-18.docx

David, this is the report that I mentioned to you yesterday. You will see that it is focused on research needs and does not get into policy issues.

Fred

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From: Benson, Robert
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 11:26 AM
Subject: Microplastics Expert Workshop Report -- Perspectives on Research Priorities

Greetings, friends of Trash Free Waters.

As most of you know, research has been an important focus area for EPA's Trash Free Waters program (TFW) since it was established in 2013. We have focused particular attention on the potential risks posed by microplastics to human health, aquatic ecosystems, and the marine environment.

The Agency's work to date includes research projects that we have funded, analyses of the impacts of plastic pollution on human and aquatic life, and information-sharing through our 8-part webinar series on microplastics. Our earlier reports and recordings of the complete webinar series are available on the EPA Trash Free Waters web page: <https://www.epa.gov/trash-free-waters>.

We all recognize that there are a somewhat overwhelming number of topics for possible research on plastic pollution in water systems. In an effort to understand the current state of the science and assess the most critical data gaps and research needs, EPA convened a Microplastics Expert Workshop (MEW) on June 28-29, 2017. A panel of world renowned technical experts identified and prioritized the scientific information needed to understand the risks posed by microplastics to human and ecological health.

I am pleased to provide you with the MEW Report, which summarizes the findings of the technical expert panel. I also have attached a one-page summary of their findings. The report is available online as well:
<https://www.epa.gov/trash-free-waters/epa-reports>.

Please note that this report is simply a summary of the expert findings and recommendations. It does not present or represent EPA policy or program positions. The MEW Report is intended to inform strategic planning with regard to research priorities within EPA and in the greater academic community. We hope it will serve as a helpful resource for many of you who are receiving this email.

Contact Dylan Laird if you have any questions about the MEW Report (laird.edward@epa.gov). Of course, feel free to contact me as well with questions about the Trash Free Waters program.

With best regards,
Bob Benson

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